

USSN 09/935,255

*Response and Preliminary Amendment***Remarks**

Claims 1-57 and 73-121 are pending.

Claims 28, 36-38, 42-47, 49, and 51-53 have been amended.

No new matter has been added with the amendments, which are intended to merely clarify language used in the claims and the subject matter claimed, and the scope of the claims is intended to be the same after the amendment as it was before the amendment.

Information Disclosure Statement. Enclosed herewith is a copy of an Information Disclosure Statement that was electronically filed on December 17, 2004, with USPTO Acknowledgement Receipt with a timestamp of 2004-12-17 15:04:26 EDT.

Consideration of the listed references and return of the enclosed Form 1449/PTO is requested showing the items as being initialed and considered.

Extension of Term. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.136 apply. Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time. If any extension and/or fee are required, please charge Account No. 23-2053.

The Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned Attorney if any questions should arise or further discussion would expedite the examination of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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